



General Assembly

February Session, 2022

**Raised Bill No. 5116**

LCO No. 1116



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by:  
(ET)

***AN ACT REQUIRING THE CREATION OF UTILITY COMPANY TREE-PLANTING FUNDS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2022*) (a) An electric distribution  
2 company that has a service area of not more than seventeen towns shall  
3 create and administer a fund to award moneys to municipalities for tree  
4 planting. The fund shall distribute annually not less than one hundred  
5 thousand dollars in the aggregate to municipalities in the service area.

6 (b) An electric distribution company that has a service area of  
7 eighteen or more towns shall create and administer a fund to award  
8 moneys to municipalities for tree planting. The fund shall distribute  
9 annually not less than five hundred thousand dollars in the aggregate  
10 to municipalities in the service area.

11 (c) The electric distribution companies shall determine the  
12 application procedures for awarding moneys from the funds described  
13 in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, provided: (1) There is no  
14 application fee; (2) awards do not exceed fifteen thousand dollars per  
15 project; and (3) eligibility is limited to municipalities in which the

16 electric distribution company awarding the moneys pruned or removed  
17 trees in the previous year.

18 (d) All trees planted pursuant to this section shall be planted on  
19 publicly owned land that is open to the public.

20 (e) No tree planted pursuant to this section may be planted on the site  
21 of a tree that was removed by a telephone, telecommunications or  
22 electric distribution company during vegetation management, as  
23 defined in section 16-234 of the general statutes.

24 (f) The electric distribution companies shall use best efforts to award  
25 moneys from the funds described in subsections (a) and (b) of this  
26 section to municipalities in amounts proportionate to the scale of tree  
27 removal and pruning conducted by the electric distribution companies  
28 in those municipalities in the previous year.

29 (g) Any costs incurred by an electric distribution company pursuant  
30 to this section shall not be recoverable.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2022</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To require the utility companies to create and administer a fund that distributes money to municipalities for tree-planting projects in public areas.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*